

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method of upgrading system software of a home appliance, the method comprising:

a home server reading a system software version of a selected home appliance from among a plurality of home appliances, wherein the system software of the selected home appliance is to be upgraded among said plurality of home appliances wherein ~~a~~the home server is remotely connected to an appliance company server over an Internet connection and the home server is connected to each of said plurality of home appliances in a local home network, wherein the selected home appliance communicates via the home server and over the Internet with the appliance company server,

wherein the local home network is a local area network,

wherein the home server is a centralized local home server, which determines which one of said plurality of home appliances connected to the home server in the local home network require a software update, without the home appliances individually making any determination about the software update

wherein a two-way communication connection is established between the home server and the appliance company server;

the home server reading a latest system software version corresponding to the selected home appliance from the appliance company server;

the home server comparing the system software version of the selected home appliance in the local home network with the latest system software version of a corresponding home appliance in the appliance company server, without any help from the appliance company server;

if the home server determines that the latest system software version of the corresponding home appliance in the appliance company server is newer than the system software version of the selected home appliance in the local home network, downloading the latest system software of the corresponding home appliance from the appliance company server to the home server; and

the home server replacing the system software of the selected home appliance with the downloaded system software through the local home network by copying the downloaded system software from the home server to the selected home appliance.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of reading the system software version of the selected home appliance in the local home network is periodically performed.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of reading the latest system software version corresponding to the selected home appliance from the appliance company server is periodically performed through the Internet.

4. (Currently amended) A method of upgrading system software of a home appliance, the method comprising:

~~displaying a data-broadcasting which provides upgrade~~ information of a system software of home appliances from an appliance company server to a plurality of home servers, wherein each home server is connected to a plurality of home appliances in a local area network and to the appliance company server over a remote network connection;

a home server selecting a system software of a home appliance to be updated from the data-broadcast;

the home server downloading the selected system software from ~~a~~the appliance company server to ~~a~~the home server through Internet, wherein the home server is connected to the home appliance in a local home network; and

the home server replacing the system software of the home appliance at home with the downloaded system software by copying the downloaded system software from the home server to the home appliance over the local home network,

wherein the home server is a centralized local home server, which determines which one of home appliances in the local home network require a software update, and

wherein a two-way communication connection is established between the home server and the appliance company server.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the home server is a set top box connected to a digital television receiver.

6-7 (Cancel)

8. (Currently amended) A method for selectively modifying software code for a designated appliance in a home network, wherein the home network comprises a plurality of appliances locally connected to a home server, wherein the home server controls download of software code from a remote server to the plurality of appliances, the method comprising:

determining a first version of a software code locally available to a first appliance connected in a home network locally connected to a home server;

determining a second version of a software code designated for the first appliance and remotely available for the first appliance on a remote server connected to the home server over a remote connection;

downloading the second version of the software code via the remote connection by way of the home server, from the remote server to the home server, in response to the home server determining that the second version of the software code is newer than the first version of the software code; and

the home server replacing the first version stored on the first appliance with the second version,

wherein the first and second determining steps, and the downloading and the replacing steps for each of the plurality of appliances in the home network are performed by the home server,

wherein the home server is a centralized local home server, which determines which one of said plurality of appliances connected to it in the home network require a software update, and

wherein a two-way communication connection is established between the home server and the remote server.